Monitoring Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2010

<u>In attendance</u>: Joe Hack, Ryan Smith, Bob Rubin, Frank Franciosi, Ken Pickle, Jeri Covington and David Halley. Craig Coker could not attend.

<u>Monitoring Sub-Committee Charter</u>: To propose a general outline of the monitoring requirements/programs that will be a component of the new compost permitting protocol.

David provided an overview of the proposed new permitting process developed by the Steering Committee.

Sub-committee outlined the following task to complete for a Monitoring Plan:

Establish parameters (what compost facilities will sample/test for) based on facility type.
Establish a frequency for sampling
Establish a procedure for reporting data (electronically).
Determine who is going to do the monitoring (what facilities and what facility types)
Determine sampling locations.

Notes:

- Sub-committee decided that their role was to determine what to sample for only. That the benchmarks/limits would be established by DWQ and code. It was determined that it was not the role of this sub-committee to determine exceedences or an outline for corrective actions. That would be determined and contained in the permit developed by DENR.
- Subcommittee is considering quarterly sampling requirements, which is the current state standard. Ryan is concerned not so much about frequency, but how and when the sampling is done. It needs to be coordinated with a rain fall event. Taking samples during certain periods will provide poor data. Collecting more data samples than four times a year was discussed. Ryan mentioned the need to incorporate rainfall data with data collected.
- Some data tests will need to be done on site and not in the lab, and will require a certified sampler.
- A Solvita Test was shared to the group by Frank. This is a very simple and inexpensive (\$5) testing device that measures CO2 and ammonia in compost. A cross matching chart of these chemicals measures compost maturity (curing to complete), which may be helpful in determining finished product.
- Group discussed tabling or postponing the decision on which facilities to sample for now and focus on the other tasks. Bob commented that we need to collect data on at least 20

facilities for statistical analysis. The proposed permitting protocol currently exempts Small Type 1 and Small Type 2 Facilities from monitoring.

- The group plans to figure out what to test for by next meeting. Ken provided various sampling data sets for the group to review. Each member of the group was to take that publication and produce a list of items to test for at compost facilities.
- It was decided that the data from the sampling should go to DWQ (Ken) and to Bob Rubin at NCSU. Jeri expressed a concern that if she was going to gather all this data and make a report, she did not want it to be just put in a file. The data needed to be entered into a data base and analyzed. Dr. Rubin agreed to be another recipient of the data and data analysis.
- The group discussed the need to possibly develop special provisions for watersheds that are on the Special Needs Water Designation (303 and 305 Reports designate). These special needs watersheds may need special consideration or modifications to compost design and monitoring.
- In the afternoon meeting of the Stakeholders, Steve Larson, with Sun Gro Horticulture asked to become a member of the subcommittee. Steve's email is SteveL@sungro.com.
- The Subcommittee needs to set up a conference call to move forward on their action items. Joe will set up date for conference call through email correspondence. Ken or David can help with sitting up call. Subcommittee to meet again face-to-face the morning of the next Compost Stakeholders meeting in May. Note: That date looks like May 27, 2010.

Here are the emails of the group:

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Minutes submitted and reviewed by: David Halley, True North Organizational Development Services and Joe Hack, Mecklenburg County.